PATRONAGE INCREASES AS MERCURY FALLS

Local Theatres Thrive Despite Disagreeable Weather.

Prestige and Finances Accrue at the Columbia.

"Private John Allen" Receives Its Premier Monday and "'Way Down East" Returns.

That the theatrical business is a good deal of a lottery has never been better exemplified than by the business of the few local playhouses open last week. The pleasant weather of the week before was seeded by a series of stormy days and nights, yet business was paradoxically good. Resident managers have about decided that they don't know how to judge the Washington public, to which conclusion traveling managers had arrived some years ago. The most flattering prospects vield the rankest failures and the attractions which reach town "in gum shoes" lead the business all too often.

Notoriety secured by a racy performance and abundant condemnation from the city press increased the starvation business of 'My Cousin' to a very fair patronage later in the week, and Treasurers Smith and Shaw were kept busy assuring anxious enquirers that the performance was really as bad as reported. "Sweet Lavender," with a capital presenting company, served to enrich T. Daniel Frawley more rapidly than any other attraction in his present than any other attraction in his present engagement, the "Standing Room Only" aign being rescued from its sequestered resting place and displayed on at least one occasion. A good bill at the Lyceum kept the red plush covered with delighted humanity and down at the little Bijou the customary crowds were regaled with a more than usually good bill. Two local entertainments caused the Lafayette to resume its pristine brilliancy for a time, being diled with friends of the performers.

ing filled with friends of the performers.

The coming week promises to be the last good one of the season from a pleasure-seeker's standpoint. That best of pastoral comedies, "Way Down East," with its remarkably strong cast, returns to the National, and Lee Arthur's new comedy-drama, "Private John Allen," will first see the footlights at the Columbia tomorrow evening, with Charles B. Hanford fea-tured and supported by the augmonted Frawley company. A bill of infinite length and excellent merit will fill the Grand from noon to midnight, the performance being continuous, an innovation in local theat-ricals, while Kernan's will yield to the popular demand and give midnight matinees during the Jubilee. The Bijou, follow-ing the same example, will commence a third performance immediately after the finale of the evening bill. Each house has a supposedly excellent offering. Depending upon the inflow of visitors, all managers are anticipating a week of prosperity.

Columbia-Private John Allen." For the past half decade it is stated that Charles B. Hanford has been attempting to get a proper play to permit him to forsake the classic and the standard drama. Viola Allen succeeded in getting "The Christian" which would have meant a for-tune to the Washington man, being ex-actly suited to the role of John Storm, but the miss may have been a blessing in disguise if all is true that is chalmed for "Private John Allen," the new Southern play which receives its premier at the Combia tomorrow evening. In no sense is a production on a war footing, but deals with politics and prospective matrimony. Allen is a shrewd party leader with more bonesty than is generally accredited to politicians. He is involved successively in a love affair, scandal, party crisis, and then eventually matrimony, his loved one believing in his honor despite very dam-aging evidence to the contrary. The drama is from the pen of Lee Arthur, an ac-tor of some experience and reputation who is expected to know what he is writing about, being a native in the State in which the scene is located, namely, Louisiana. It is claimed for the new production that it will be well mounted, special scenery being constructed for the occasion. Be-hind Mr. Hanford will be seen the strong Frawley company, many of the actors being acceptably cast and several additions being enlisted for this occasion. The fav-orites of the company will be seen to good advantage. Geoffrey Stein in his second "heavy" part, and Miss Alice Johnson, who created such a favorable impression in "All the Comforts of Home." will play the trying but effective role of the adven-turess. On this week the matiness will occur on Friday and Saturday in order to avoid conflict with the Jubiles celebration.

National-" 'Way Down East."

The play which appeals chiefly to no particular class of theatregoers-or rather pleases all equally well-is assured of a notable longevity. Such is "'Way Down East," which appears at the New National tomorrow night, remaining for a single week. Ministers have united with vaude ville critics in praising this pastoral drama -and certainly a more varied commenda-tion could not be desired. Not only is the strong heart story ever present but a vein of delicious comedy runs from the rise of the curtain to the happy finale of the last. Characterizations of New England people are generally caricatures, yet it is claimed



East."

kept carefully within the bounds of real-ism. The busy-body is the evil spirit which makes the story possible, turning a happy home into a house of sorrow. In the character of the unhappy seamstress, Phoche Davies was enthusiastically received upon her visit here earlier in the sea-son, being likened to Mrs. Fiske, although she claims no similiarity save that both strive to be natural in everything. The closing scene of the third act is probably the most powerful in pastoral drama and will long remain as such. The company supporting Miss Davies includes the well-known character notor Odell Williams. famed for his work in "Alabama" and "The Heart of Maryland;" Forrest Robincharacter women; George Bachus, who has been compared with W. J. Fergeson, Felix Haney, Charles Bell, Pearl Evellyn, Frank Lander, Sara Stephens, John Bunny, and many other capable people in small but effective parts. Two matinees.

Grand-Continuous Vandeville

When Managers Burke & Chase brought their regular reason to a close it was with the promise that the Grand should be reopened with a bill which would startle the

natives. This boast promises to be realized in the booking for next week, for certainly nothing approaching it has been seen in Washington. Many of those artists who have been favorably received upon their first visit have been again engaged and with the added feature of a continuous performance from noon to midnight, the management hope to break all old and establish new records. After the week this management hope to break all old and establish new records. After the week this theatre will be closed and completely overhauled and refitted for the coming year. This bill includes O'Kabes Imperial Japs, Carrie Behr, Duffy, Sawtelle and Duffy, Josephine Arthur, Leroy and Morris, Blanche Ruskin, a recruit from local ranks; Henshaw and Hoyt, Ahren and Patrick, May Wentworth, J. Edwin Brown and Company in a new and original sketch, Dorothy Drew, and others of lesser prominence. A special scale of low prices prevails for the week.

Kernan's-Roeber and Crane Com-

Bijou-Vaudeville.

new people to please his patrons, he re-

engages those who have already appeared

at his cozy little house. Several of these will be seen in the bill this week and some

of the best other talent obtainable will

of the best other talent obtainable will contest with them for the applause of the Bijou clientele. The stock company has some good things in preparation for the week, being augmented for the occasion, Paddy Miles, May Walsh and James Ireland, the bon-ton trio head the olio, followed by Barton and Ashley, the DeAcos, Forrester and Floyd, in their alleged comic vacciality. "The Ind. and the Soulvestie."

Topack and Steele, and the Soubrette,"
Topack and Steele, and the Vitograph
with a new series of pictures. The idea of
ideas this week is the giving of an extra
performance on Peace Jubilee days, begin-

ng at 11 p. m. and continuing to 3 p. m

Seats ordered for the Maude Adams pro-

Preparations for the three big exhibi-

While there are to be many pleasant features connected with the Peace Jubilee, tew will give more pleasure than the con-cert on next Friday evening, at Convention

Hall. The music committee has labored

selecting his orchestra of sixty musicians. The chorus, under the direction of Mr.

the committee has had the assistance of

the prominent vocal teachers and choir di-rectors in the city, the result is that they have gathered in many of the able singers

in this city. Mr. Waldecker states that he

easure of viewing the beautiful decora-

A great big but with a great big brim, All bound round with a woolen string.

early English literature, the repetition

He donnes has hatte with a flappynge brim, All bound round with a woolen thrim.

The authors of the play have kept close to the old-time ideas in everything, each character being a type, possibly exaggerat-

ed, but amusing and natural for all that

An instance of the careful study which

Phoche Davies devotes to her part in "Way Down East" occurred while a Times

an was interviewing her during her first

which Miss Davies, in the character of Anna Moore, is driven from the home of

Anna Moore, is driven from the home of Squire Bartlett into the blinding, whirl-

ing snowsform. The actress had changed her gown for one showing the effect of the

errible night's exposure and carefully

terrible night's exposure and carefully brushed a few tiny bits of paper—which served as snowflakes—from the dress. "Why do you not leave the snow on the gown?" asked the critic. "Would you not naturally have snow upon your garments after a night in the woods?" "Yea," was the realy. "I doubtless would have snow

the reply; "I doubtless would have snow

all over mc, but it would all melt when I am placed before the fire in the sugar camp. Then the people would know it

camp. Then the people would know it was not show, but paper and the effect of

the whole be minimized. So I choose the

There is more or less similarity between all the pastoral dramas now being pre-sented. All strive to carry the memory back to the country home; each presents characters more or less exaggerated to furnish amusement to the comedy seeker; every one includes a heart story of more or

less power. It is a question whether some of the characters in rural plays are really overdrawn. When Charles Hoyt wrote "A Temperance Town" he had in mind an old

gentleman living near his boyhood home as he drew the lines and business for the "oldest inhabitant." George Ober was intrusted with the creation of the part, and

in rehearsal did not realize the author'

idea, great and experienced actor though he is. As a result of the dispute, author and actor took a trip across the greater part of New England, finally reaching the

domicile of the original "oldest inhabi-tant." Ober was convinced and made up the part as Hoyt originally advised. True

Desiman Thompson is an overdrawn type, emphasized by the fact that no stage man-ager could "call down" both actor and author. James A. Hearne probably reach-

lesser evil and brush off every bit of th

white stuff."

duction of "Romeo and Juliet" and not yet

called for will be placed on sale to the

in all parts of the theatre.

When Manager Grieves cannot get good

stranger.

Probably no woman upon the American stage today is attracting so much atten-tion as Blanche Bates, the daughter of the capable Mrs. Bates, with the Frankey Com-pany. Under these circumstances it will be wonderful, indeed, if the coming prebe wonderful, indeed, if the coming pre-sentation of "The Dancing Girl" by the Frawleys, with Miss Bates in the titular role, should fail to be the sensation of the Manager Kernan announces an unusual season. The piece will be remembered as one of the most strongly balanced ever staged in America. It received its first American production at the New National, with Ned Sothern and Virginia Harned in attraction for his well-known house during the week. While there will be women, and shapely women, among the singers and dancers of the company, the prevailing amusement will be feats of strength by Ernest Roeber and Mons. Laurent, the modern Sampson. The well-known strong ran will engage to break cobblestones with his fist, snap log chains as children break tow strings, and perform other feats of unusual difficulty. A defi, sweeping in its extent, is that issued by Ernest Roeber, who offers to pay \$25 for every man who will stand before him without being thrown for fitteen minutes, in "Graeco-Roman." As there are several strong men here who have some aspirations on the mat there promises to be fun at the Lyceum is the midnight matinees to be given on the nights of the Peace Jubilee. These will be appreciated, it is thought, by the men out for a time, as well as the weary, worn stranger. shapely women, among the singers and with Ned Sothern and Virginia Harned in the principal parts. When seen at the Columbia, Mr. Frawley will assume Mr. Sothern's role. This is one of the few impersonations in which "Tim" takes a commendable pride. He says he can do it pretty well and when one is cognizant of his reticence regarding his personal worth, the "pretty well" means a great deal. . . .

she found her ideas realized to the letter and has since retained her make-up and dialect despite the occasional criticism of a well-meaning but unknowing reviewer.

. . .

ed the some of realism in "Shore Acres, but even his portraits are exaggerated if judged by the criticism of the Boston papers, who are surely in a position to AND CHARYBDIS know whereof they speak. Ella Hugh Wood, in gossipy Martha in "Way Down East," was at first accused of accentuating the mischief maker's characteristics and to satisfy herself of the verity or falseness of the critical claim, spent her well earned vacation with an aunt residing within an hour's ride of the city of bean eaters. Here

ity by Attacking It. Decency Demands Sincere Condem-

nation of Stage Lewdness.

thats With and Gossip Regarding Players Well Known in the National Capital.

The events of the week just passed into nistory again show the difficult position of the dramatic writer of the present day While fracturing some of the precon-ceived ideas regarding fate, it is well to recall the fact that this is the thirteenth season "Hughey" Kernan has served as a testing against the lewdness and obscenity



In the Third Act of "'Way Down East."

first applying, thus opening up some of the choicest locations in the house. While the sale is immense, there are vacancies purveyor of amusement in Washington, of the comedy. This stand was due all To prove beyond a reasonable doubt that right-thinking people; due every parent, the unlucky thirteen is not an ill omen the numberless friends of the popular manager are striving to make his two benefits record If there is anything in a name, and many people believe there is, Shakespeare to the contrary notwithstanding, "The Hot Air Burlesquers," which appear here in "Hughey" Kernan's benefit should be considerably torrid. Seats for the two benefit performances are going rapidly and the many friends of the popular manager propose to make him remember the occasion to the last of his days.

The diminutive extravaganza, "Alice in Wonderland," announced for the Lafayette this week, was found upon investigation by Manager Painter to be of inferior merit and was immediately canceled. During the summer certain improvements will be made in the beautiful house, and it prom-ises to be the most completely fitted theatre in the country when it opens in

Preparations for the three big exhibi-tions to be given by the Pain Fireworks Company during the Jubilee have been completed and the management promise the most stupendous thing of the kind ever presented in Washington. Each of the 11,000 seats is said to offer a perfect view of the pyrotechnics. Seats are now on sale at Guzman's, in Droop's music store. There will be a dearth of amusement in There will be a dearth of amusement in Washington after the middle of June, unless some good "angel" steps forward. The Frawley Company will bring their engagement to a conclusion, and the two vaude-ville houses will also become dark. Then it will be a case of seek the out-of-door resorts or fail to be amused. Some definite announcement of intentions will likely fol-

Hall. The music committee has labored hard in behalf of this concert and have chosen two of the ablest directors in the city, Mr. Herman Rakemann and Mr. William Waldecker. Mr. Rakemann, who is to direct the orchestra, is well known among music lovers in this city, both as a violinist and as a director, and for this occasion he has been given carte blanche in selecting his creater of sixty musicians. prise: it will number 300 voices, and as quantity and quality of liquid refresh-ment had been brought on and Mr. Mur-ray had begun the telling of his usual anecdotes the gloom was not dispersed of in this city. Mr. Waidecker states that he has never had the pleasure of conducting such a fine chorus. As an added feature the magnificent decorations are to remain in the hall from the Revelries, and the public will not only hear one of the most enjoyable concerts ever given in this city by local musicians, but will also have the pleasure of viewing the heautiful decoradispersed with The tales were all of misfortune and sorrow, and they culmi-nated in a story for the truth of which Mr. Luckett volunteered to hold himself personally responsible.

According to this narrative the senior partner of the firm which manages the Co-lumbia Theatre once controlled a musician who knew an actor who had suffered the experience recorded. The company to There is a ditty of unusual timbre and wording in the second act of "'Way Down East," and it is so well sung that it bas which this Thespian belonged played one night stands exclusively and during the season in question the organization had never a stroke of good luck. One poor attracted universal attention. Charles Bell is the vocalist, and he retains the character of Rube Whipple, the village constable, house followed another until the combina-tion became seriously fearful that it would be obliged to stop at one of them. Finally the tide of misadventure landed the troupe broughout its rendition. The refrain runs in a small town in Colorado. No single member of the band had a penny and the future looked darker than the inside of a Western gambling hall does after one man The song is not constructed especially for the beautiful pastoral drama, but is a legitimate "old timer," being found in the has called another a liar.

But just at this stage of the affair the But just at this stage of the affair the tide mentioned turned so suddenly as to nearly wash the happy fellows off their feet. The manager of a theatre in the next burg was anxious to give himself a benefit, and he was willing to guarantee almost anything if he could secure the talent. Some good angel told him of the staying players and he wired them immentary players and he wired them immentary to the second of the se tarving players and he wired them immeliately to come on at his expense and re-elve half of the gross receipts. A check ollowed the message and within a day the company had pulled itself together and aken a train for the next town.

Upon arriving at their destination, the unfortunates, who were soon to be re-connected with their luck, took an omni-bus and proceeded toward the best hotel in town. The friend of Mr. Luckett's in town. The friend of Mr. Luckett's friend rode with the driver and he was so distinctly happy that he kept telling that individual nice things about the burg all the way down the street. He admired all the way down the street. He admired the buildings he saw, thought the saloons marvels of the decorator's art, praised the wooden posts that upheld kerosene lamps, and went into cestacles of delight when the road crossed a barren field and gave him a riew of the same monotonous mountains ne had been so industriously cursing for a week past. And when he noted a deep, red solar glow in the Western sky his pleasure knew no bounds. "Great!" he exclaimed to the unresponsive driver—"Great!" And then he risked his neck by leaning over nd calling to his comrades inside the vericle that that was "the warmest thing" he had ever seen. When the horses turn-ed into another street and showed the ho-rizon completely lit up the actor could no nger contain himself.

"Say," he raved to the impassive knight of the reins—"say, that's the greatest sun-net I ever saw!" The Jehu smiled. Then he shifted his The Jenu smilet.

quid of tobacco from one cheek to another, clucked to the steeds in front, sniffed, and prepared to make answer. "Sunset,"

ind prepared to make answer. "Sunset," he said. "Sunset, hell! That aint' no sunhe said. Sunset, hell: I'll aint in sun-set—that's the op'ry house afire!"

And the Eleven O'Clock Club relapsed into sorry silence, while an urchin in the street, who had evidently heard "The Idol's Eye," began softly whistling, "Talk About

Managers Burke & Chase have been making extensive arrangements for the week of the Peace Jubilee at the Grand, and as a result the bill, which will be the last offered at that house until next sea-son, bears the names of a number of the black fellows, was practically shot to best known people in the vaudevilles, pieces and bears to this day reminders of

that they might warn their sons and daughters of the evil rampant in a theatre supposedly the locale of all that is good and artistic in dramatics; due the casual buyer of tickets, that he might know for what he was investing his collateral; in abort, due everyone concerned or possibly interested in thentricals. The fact that the papers with the immaculate hepatic organs should arise and cry out against a produc-tion which advertised in their columns is a sufficient guarantee of the indecency of "My Cousin." And look at the result.

A house "papered" upon the first presen-tation, filled with the correspondents and their friends, the upper portions crowded with the holders of "liths" industriously is will be a case of seek the out-of-door resorts or fail to be amused. Some definite announcement of intentions will likely follow the Peace Jubilee.

At a session of the Eleven o'Clock Club held last night in the quarters of the society the most pronounced melancholia was evident. Charles King, who resembles his distinguished namesake only when in such is a state of mind, glared fleredly at a wall; Frank Murray chewed his mustache and the cud of reflection, and Joe Luckett ate to whole lobster in front of him with a double-edged kinfe, and a degree of saverage as by a desire to be avenged upon the creature in question. Even after the usual quantity of liquid refresh.

In the two score of years in this continued all the week, and had the engagement been extended, the capacity of the earlier offering of the hill. This continued all the week, and had the engagement been extended, the capacity of the capacity of the National would have been tried repeatedly, Madame Pilar-Morin was not distressed at their lack of interest but now find myself following their example to the letter. In the two score of years in this continued all the week, and had the engagement been extended, the capacity of the capacity of the National would have been tried repeatedly. Madame Pilar-Morin was not distressed at their lack of interest but now find myself following their example to the letter. In the two score of years in this distinguished name that the engagement been extended, the capacity of the ca

and you sacrifice the good opinion of right ninded and virtuous people. Spread groad your condemnation, and you crowd the theatre. The proper course is con ectural. Possibly some great genius will step forth as the Moses to lead the wan-derers from the Egypt of failure. Certainly a guide is needed.

he good old theatrical days now happily past. William Winter stands as a pure ex conent of chastly in dramatics. In a re-cent article he says: "There are no rea-cons, whether of the box office or of anything else, which under any circumstances an ever justify the production of an un clean play. A man at the head of a thea-tre is under just as great an obligation to absolute righteousness as a man at the head of a church, and the theatre will never be what it ought to be until this truth be comes a practical law in the conduct o the stage. The stage of this country i not tamely to be delivered into the hands of sordid and mercenary traders, Oriental speculators in sensuality, unprincipled panderers to all that is mean and low in a deprayed and bestial multitude. The strong forces of evil have gone very far. but there are distinct signs of an imp ing revolt against them in which will be over thrown and dispersed. accessful manager will be the man who tands for virtue, intelligence, refinement aste, and purity."

Spring days compel even the theatre treasurers to seek relief in poetry, or dog-gerel as the case may be. 'Jed' Shaw, of the National, in a recent spaam of remem-brance gave vent to the accompanying bit, which is the initial installment of "Things Which Have Happened to Me." It was suggested by an experience recently. It

He wandered up to the box office window, and the hayseeds speckled his hair; He asked the price of tickets, in the balcony, for a pair;
And when he was told they were all gone—there were really none to spare, He bought two for the orchestra, and said, with

an apologetic sir: 'Maggie won't know how to act down there in the orchestra chair.

Not a few of the local critics in discuss ing the work of Harrington Reynolds, the have concluded that his peculiar walk is a result of a long life in the legitimate. Such, however, is not the case, for while no novice in this most absurd branch of dramatics, the walk of the actor is due to years of service in an English army saidle. Properly, Mr. Reynolds should be halled as captain, for the '70's saw him commanding a troop in the Royal Hussars. While not inclined to emblazon his exploits on the outer wall, Captain Reynolds Inst week imparted to a friend some of his early ex-periences which rival the exploits of Kip-"Soldiers Three," and other army idols. When twenty years younger than today, Captaln Reynolds was a dare-devil sort of a fellow, a favorite in private the-atricals, in the dance hall or in officers' mess. The years of '78 and '79 found him in Central Africa, in Basuta, adjacent to Zuzuland, and a section rivaling the Apache frontier in its palmiest days. The natives were in revolt against the British power and a mission of great danger caused Coionel, now Lord Methuen to call for vol-

Those responding constituted Methuen's

native accurateness at rifle practice. A glancing bullet caught him in his sword arm, shattering the small bones into splinters; an ounce sing entered his neck to be extracted below his scapula, and a similar token of esteem visited vengeance on a totally unnecessary rib, as the Captain has lived without it ever since. A long siege with the fever, gangrene, pestilence, and blood poisoning followed, and after a gailant struggle in that tropical summer Captain Reynolds recovered to find his good sword arm disabled, and, like the Moor of Venice, his occupation gone. Accepting a provisional pension in lieu of the monthly stipend rewarding the usual British hero, the disabled veteran was enticed into the theatrical business, dropping his little fortune while engaged in ters; an ounce slug entered his neck to be Critics Only Prosper Vulgarping his little fortune while engaged in "the business end of the profession." Literally driven to the stage, he has made Literally driven to the stage, he has made a great suctess. After recovering perfective the use of his arm he toured the provinves, eventually reached America and has been in clover ever since. An adept in stock work, he is a ready student, and none of the Frawleys are more familiar with their lines or business on short notice than the Hero of Basuta.

the dramatic writer of the present day.

Like the mariner in the mythical period of Grecian life, he finds himself between Scylla and Charybdis, and is liable to be crushed by the one or swallowed in the vortex of the other. The case which calls forth this observation is the result of the criticisms of Madame Pilar-Morin's "My Cousin." Doubtless a more wholesale condemnation has never been received from the local press, each and every writer protesting against the lewdness and obscenity

It is a good deal of a step from supporting legitimate stars like Frederick Ward, After the preliminary rehearsal of "Private James to doing cake walks in a popular-priced burtlesque show. This alteration is that of Edna Mitchell, one of the Mitchell Sisters with the "Broadway Burlesquers" at Kernan's and she was so pleased with his really under the voting age, and since her intrace has spent hered as the could be seen in the cast of "We Uns" next season if he so desired. This is quite a compliment for the young Washington lights, making her initial appearance as the little Prince in Richard III early in the last decade. Finally, growing too statuesque for child parts, she entered vaude-will with her cousin, whose rear name is Sheldon, the twain constituting the Mitchell Sisters. Each is quite comely in her way, It is a good deal of a step from support the local press, each and every writer pro-testing against the lewdness and obscenity testing against the lewdness and obscenity self-definition of the little Prince in Richard III early in the last decade. Finally, growing too sat-nesque for child parts, she entered vaude-ville with her cousin, whose rear name is Sheldon, the twain constituting the Mitchell Sisters. Each is quite comely in her way, their voices blend perfectly, and their "turn" is far above the average in their especial line of work. When asked the other afternoon why soubrette teams or knockabout artists invariably pose as sis-ters or brothers the young women united in explaining that the title was more euphonious, more easily remembered by the public, and was an attraction to managers. Certain it is that the Cherry Sisters are not forgotten, while the equally odorous act of the Smith and Jones combination has assed into a sweet forgetfulness.

George Gaston grasped his part for "Private John Allen" in one hand and a scene prop in the other when approached by a Times mish during rehearsal at the Columbia yesterday morning and requested for a brief description of "his dark past." "You pust yeter to the many colored parts I must refer to the many colored parts I have played," said the little old man with a laugh endowed with good nature. "You see, I am the representative of the old stock company days. I was in stock work here with Jack Seville's company away back in the early seventies, but stayed only a portion of the season. The requirements for a continuous engagement have altered decidedly since my entrance into the pro-Then a stock actor was expected fersion. Then a stock actor was expected to be able to fence, perform athletic feats, speak several languages, ride horseback, sing, dance, play character and leading business with equal facility and if necessary aid in striking the scenery. Now, the line of duty is more circumscribed and each man has his own particular work and is not required to leave it. Yes, I have supported some of the old romantic stars, including Nillson, Cushman, Forrest, and others. others.
"In those days each actor was 'up' on all

the romantic and standard plays and able to go on in a part in a minute's notice. We frequently put on a different work each night of the week. Yet it seems to me we are required to work harder now me we are required to work harder now with but one performance a week. You see, we old fellows get in a kind of rut and can't, easily get out of it. When I was a youngster in the profession I noticed that as soon as an old-aeter came off he went to his room instead of standing around in the wings to watch the others work. I then wondered at their lack of interest but now find myself following their example to the letter. In the two score of wars in this

way Burlesquers." Although a fair and natural delineator of German character, no one who visited Kernan's during the week could avoid reaching the opinion that he overworked himself. This is especially so during the afterpiece, where he breaks in on really good specialties of his supporting company in a senseless and ignorant attempt to produce laughter. Of course, he pays the salaries, but the box office receipts would increase if his over-ambition could be curbed by a bit of good judgment.

Inborn courage urged The Times man seek an interview with Mme. Pilarorin after her matinee performance ; day. The comely Parisian was reclin a her luxurious couch when the card of the dramatic writer reached her, electing to remain at the theatre rather than re ove her rather elaborate make-up and ok her hotel and dinner. Naturally witty and bright, her five years in America have sharpened even her keen talents, and she defended her position in producing "My Cousin" somewhat as follows: "You Amercans prate about purity in dramatics, and there ends your opinions on the subject. You do not support pure plays, and naturally drive managers to seek what you really want.

"A case illustrating my argument occurs to me now. You may remember that beau-tiful play. 'The Last Chapter,' one of the ost poetle little things ever seen. I attended its first performance in New York and said to myself, 'Now here is a piece which should be well received.' And in two weeks it was forced to retire because was too moral. Here in Washington where you preach morality and practice the opposite you did not give 'The Last Chap-ter' a decent hearing, and still every newspaper says I am wicked and deprayed for producing 'My Cousin' in this National Capital. The only thing you praised was a bit of pantomime I did and really it was a burlesque on the art. If I was to be starred in a pantomimic part, the people would rush over themselves in an effort to keep away from the theatre. So you see what you Americans have you do not wan and what you want you will not accept. The woman who plays such parts as this of mine are not immoral. Art has no moral-ity or conscience. 'My Coustn' has created a sensation and when it returns to Washington after a New York run, you can't keep people away. My company be good, my play is bright and not imi al, and my intentions are lofty and noble. Sometime I will give you pantomime and you critics alone will come and say the the next day, 'Pilar-Morin is a good panomimist, but gave us too much of her art. We liked her better in 'My Cousin." For after all, critics are human and generally very human. I must now dress for my evening performance, and I know you will y good wishes and pardon me from

A Washington girl who has created a most admirable impression among the critical visitors at the Bijou is Nina Col-lins, who would grace the cast of many comic operas. With a voice of rare rich ess and unusual sweetness and power, the young woman renders excerpts from stand-ard compositions with a taste and delicacy unusual in even the best of vaudeville. Miss Collins is a graduate from the chorus of the Castle Square, winning the favorable notice of the munical director by close ap-plication to study and excellent rendition of bits given her. As a result, she was inof bits given ner. As a result, she was in-stalled as understudy, resigning to accept leading business in Sousa's "El Capitan." Her success on the road was great, but she was compelled to close her engagement on account of ill-health, returning to

Washington and accepting the present po-sition which she says is pleasant on ac-count of the light work, in comparison with the life-shortening continuous labor in stock opera. Miss Collins has a reper-toire of fifty standard comic and grand operas and says abo can see the control of the operas and says she can get "up" on one of them in an hour's time. She is really a handsome woman, of intelligence unusu-ni in her profession, and will bear watch-ing during the next few years.

Only three members of the present Frawley company were with the popular actor-manager when he began his 'Frisco engagement five years ago with 'Sweet Laventier.'' These are Mr. Frawley himself, Charles W. King, and "Tommy" Phillipps. The latter is assistant stage manager and almost indispensable. Like "the man behind the guns" he is not a showy piece of furniture, but is exceedingly essential for success. Few of the Columbia patrons would know "Tommy" if they were to see him on the street, but a still less number would fall to noa still less number would fail to no-tice his absence from a Frawley produc-tion. He's a modest sort of a ind, an adept in his line of work, and will be establishng companies himself some years hence.

Channing Pollock, dramatic editor of The Times, sailed for London last week for a brief rest after a long and honest devotion to duty here. He will return in July to resume his position.

BRIEFLY TOLD.

Forty companies closed last week chool's out.

Ward and Vokes will soon produce new skit, "The Floor Walker." Corse Payton's "T. T. T." company cleared over \$25,000 this season.

The engagement of Harrison J. Wolfe and Marie Barrington is announced. "Papa's Wife" is to be the next vehicle for Anna Held. And still they come.

Nat Goodwin and Ned Sothern contemplate a joint starring tour next season. Maude Courtney has again made a hig hit at Koster & Bial's. She was greatly liked here.

Felix Haney, the laughable "Hi Hol-ler," of "'Way Down East," has numerous Washington relatives.

Half of the brief notes of the "Dramatic Mirror" are to deny ridiculous stories of the New York dailies. Eddie Dunn will do press work in Den-

r during the summer. Eddie will just suit the Colorado city. The valuable furniture and souvenirs of

the late Alexander Herrmann were sold last week at public auction. Louise Nesmith, formerly with Thou E. Shea, will do leading business in "The Village Postmaster" next season.

Has it come to this? The Lyceum com cany is said to be contemplating the production of a drama, "The Libertine."

Blanche Bates comes on to join the Frawleys after "Private John Allen," tak-ing the title role in "The Dancing Girl." Otto E. Seilhausen will look after the finances of Gien Echo. No better selec-tion or more popular man could have been found.

"A Stranger in a Strange Land," here early this season, will be revived in Gotham, having been built up greatly. It should go.

Eugenie Blair will be seen in Litt's "The Club Baby." She will play opposite Ar-thur Forrest, for many years Mansfield's leading man.

Effic Ellaler, of "Hazel Kirk" fame, will play Glory Quayle in a road company of "The Christian." Dorothy Usner is now due for the part.

"His Japanese Wife," a comedy by Clay Green, was produced in 'Frisco lately, is plot would not be suitable for a Sun-

Robert Grau, Clint Wilson, and Joe Page have a London representative.

Charles Dickson will be seen next sea in a new three-act comedy, "All Men Liars." If his proposed "angel" is an xception, the piece will be seen here. Baltimore can again reloice. The Lyum Stock Company completed its career devastation among the old-time plays

last night. It will open again next sea-Minnie Ashley, the little woman was generally praised here with "The Geisha" has made the hit of her life in

"Prince Pro Tem." Even Boston enthus over her. Julia Arthur rang down the curtain or "A Lady of Quality" in New Haven the other evening and declined to continue her erformance until a drunken Yale ent was removed from the house.

iction was generally applauded. Pearl Evellyn, with "'Way Down East,' as a former member of the Columbia ock Company. She assumed the role of Kate when Louise Galloway was compelled to resign on account of sickness. Pearl is said to have made quite an impression in the part.

John Blair, late leading man with Julia Marlowe will give a special performance of Ibsen's "Ghosts" on May 29. Herr Emanuel Reichter, of the Deutches Theatre, Berlin, whom Ibsen considered best delineator of his creations in Europe has deferred his departure to direct the

The "Telegraph" says: "The effort of finishing his last play was so very dis-tressing that H. A. Du Souchet had to go to the Hot Springs to recuperate. He has just come back to New York after a seven weeks' absence." Which shows that Mr. Du Souchet is really human and can suffer ns do his audiences.

Charles Coquelin and Jane Hading are to produce Edmond Rostand's "Plus Que Reine" in London. Julia Arthur owns the American rights to the drama and will do next season in New York with a cast and investiture that threaten to con pletely hide the star from sight unless her press agent is an exceedingly able one.

"The Club Baby," a farce which Jacob Litt has been threatening to produce for the last five months, will be done at Mc-Vicker's Theatre, in Chicago, a week from Since Max Figman is in the cast Sunday. it is safe to announce that everyone within a mile of the playhouse mentioned will know when the piece is finally presented.

Emma Calve has ordered her tombstone and the sculptor announces his intention of exhibiting the work at the Paris Expo-sition. Madame Calve should make some arrangement with Sara Bernhardt, who was her own coffin, and with Madam-Fougere, who is said to have had her own grave dug, that the show may be

Nat C. Goodwin and Annie Russell are o share the Duke of York's Theatre in ondon, Mr. Goodwin being seen there every night and Miss Russell at the nees. Mr. Frohman had found it impos-sible to secure a separate house for his lever woman star and hence this arangement, which promises more nov than profit.

Alma D'Alma is said to have fallen a vic im to some Moorish monster in far-off dorocco, Nanette Comstock has been described as the sufferer by an automobile runaway, Mme. Melba is supposed to have made a fortune on the stock exchange, and the month has furnished other evidences of the fact that spring fever has no effect upon press agents.

THE GERRY SOCIETY RECEIVES A REBUFF

Children Licensed for Stage Work by the Mayor.

Professional Woman's League Does "The Three Guardsmen."

The Sole Innovation in the Metropolis Last Week-Death of Mary Timberman.

New York, May 20 .- The greatest event in a managerial way during the week just past is the public declaration of war upon the Gerry Society by Mayor Van Wyck. For years the theatrical business has been blocked by the senseless and continuous interference of this band of misanthropes. The age limit caused children of sixteen to impersonate those of six, and the effect was ludicrous in the extreme. Enthused with their success, the Gerryites grew bolder and announced their intention of evading the supervision of the State Board of Charities. They maintained a potent lobby in Albany for the purpose of influencing legislation in their behalf and carried their aggressive policy into local politics and policies. There is no question of politics among the enemies of the Gerryites, the simon-pure Republican, the machine man and the Tarmanyite uniting to crush their influence. Mayor Van Wyck is universally applanded for his licensing children for stage work and has made more supporters thereby among the peo-ple who wield influence than by any oth-er act of his official career. If the thea-trical people of this city were electing a President at this time, his name would be Van Wyck.

The week has been a most singuant one from a theatrical point of view. The patviously, with such a decrease in business that many close this evening. Among the houses darkened are Wallack's, where the very racy "The Cuckoo" has been "packing them;" the Knickerbocker, from which Julia Marlows diparts with her pretty comedy, "Collnette;" Because Sha Loved Him So" leaves the Madison Square after an unprecedented run for a summer trial in the wilds of Chicago, and Maude Adams with her pair of supporting stars goes on the road with her "Romeo and Juliet," leaving the Empire closed for the summer. Mrs. Carter has deferred her much-needed vacation in order to satisfy the enthusiasts which fill the Garden at every performance, while "Shenandoah" with its great battle scene, DaWolf Hop-per with his cheapened company and brightened opera, and "The Great Ruby" continue a prosperous season at their sev-

Julia Marlowe is decidedly partial to Washington and is not slow in expressing herself to that end. She says the residents of the National Capital are the most intelligent and the most courteous she plays before and appreciate the delicate touches of her work as do the patroes of no other city. She also admires Washington critics although they have never been especially nice to her, on account of their evident sincerity of purpose and a certain kind-ness in reproving her for her sins of com-mission and omission. Miss Marlowe sails mission and omission. Miss Mariowe salls soon for Europe as her season has been a hard one. Next year you will see her in "Colinette" and probably in one or two other new plays, Shakespeare and "The Countess Valenka" being permanently helved.

Representatives of the sterner sex were scarcer than hen's teeth on the stage of the Broadway Theatre Thursday afternoon, when the Professional Woman's League presented Paul Kester's version of "The Three Guardsmen," under the caption of "The Musketeers." The dramatization is not particularly powerful, as all will re-member who saw it presented in Washing-ton by Paul Gilmour and company, but it was good enough for the women. The performance was really more amusing than impressive. All through there was an en-restrained effort of D'Artagnan to grasp Robert Grau, Clint Wilson, and Joe Page her skirts while engaged in the leadly have joined hands, creating a powerful duello, and Cardinal Richelieu vied with wandeville management. The firm will king Louis in a scramble to escape the onslaught of a wandering mouse. Seriously, though, the offering was an artistic suc-cess. Maude Banks, who impersonated D'Artagnan, announced when she accepted the part that only one of her parents was a woman and she would model herself as much after the other as possible. She was a vigorous and chivalrous adventurer, looked well in masculine garments, and imparted considerable comedy to the part Marie Wainwright "made up" for Cardinal Richelleu with a sincerity of purpose and regard to historic precedent that was astounding. Her reading of the lines was excellent, while Jennie Winston, Grace Huntington, Sarah McVicker, Mary Hamp-ton, and Bijou Fernandez were acceptable in every way. Speeches were demanded of "Aunt Louisa" Bidredge, Mrs. Pernandez. and Paul Kester but the young man had the good judgment to be absent and so es-caped seeing his play murdered and from assassinating his own reputation by a pre-

urtain address.

John J. Sullivan has been rushing into print pretty vigorously to explain why he did not appear in "My Cousin" in your town the other evening. In short he claims that H. J. Nichols, who is directing the alleged tour of Madame Pilar-Morin is a financial irresponsible, and that he never received a cent of rehearsal money after resigning his position with "Mile. Fig." now playing in Philadelphia. He also claims that he spent some half hundred of his own in getting up on the part, and says he has been badly used. However, "My Cousin" comes on to Wallack's if it ever Cousin comes on to wanness in it ever manages to get out of Washington. The verdict of Washington in declaring its mastiness will prove invaluable to the management here in Gotham, where we revel in fifth, or think we do.

A death of great sadness is that of Mary A death of great samess is that of Mary Timberman, well known as an interpreter of romantic roles with Thomas W. Keene and Charles B. Hanford. During the en-gagement of the MacLean-Tyler-Hanford combination here recently. Miss Timber-man was well received and scored several correspond successes. She was universally personal successes. She was universally popular and her death will be an anncement of sincere regret to thousand of friends, secured by a life of virtue and devotion to duty. Born in Kookuk, Iowa, she did her first public work as a newspa-per reporter and then drifted into the pro-fession. She was about thirty-five years

There is a tinge of sadness in the sale Thursday of the numerous souvenirs and relics of the late Alexander Herrmann. Hare lewels presented to the magician by monrchs the world over were included in the archs the world over were included in the auctioned property. Adelaide Herrmann, the administratrix of the estate, declares that the sale was necessary on account of her continued absence from the city and her continued absence from the city and a consequent inability to manage affairs. Mildred Howard DeGrey, whom the gallery gods of Kernan's Lyceum are reported to have hissed upon her last appearance in Washington, has accepted an offer to exhibit her butlouless feet in London and soon sails. Clad in an artificial seawed gown, Miss DeGrey will probably be received as a typical representative of American civilization, by the Londoners. American civilization by the Londoners. Still, we have sent less cultured people to the British capital and they returned alive and unimprisoned.

Charles Frohman is being sued for \$10,-Charles Frohman is being succi for \$10,-600 by one Henry E. Walton, who says he owns the title of "The Cuckoo." Just why Mr. Walton made no objection when Hen-ry Guy Carleton made use of the name can-not be told, but if the new claimant wins his case he will certainly have a right to demand damages for the manner in which that author injured the cognomen in ques-